minium Company's project in Orissa has gone up many times than the original estimated cost ;

(b) if so, what was the original estimated cost and the revised or anticipated cost ;

(c) whether the escalation is due to delay in completion of the various items or due to escalation in the price of machinery and other inputs/inftrasructure; and

(d) by when the project is likely to be completed ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF MINES IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA) : (a) and (b) The original estimated cost of the National Aluminium Company Limited (NALCO) project at 1980 prices was Rs. 1242·36 crores. The Revised Cost Estimates of the project at 1985 prices is Rs. 2408·14 crores.

(c) The escalation in the project cost is due to the following factors :—

(Rs. in crores)

Inflation	632·76
scope changes (including extra interest burden) . . .	198·90
Quantity Variation . .	55·63
Taxes and Duties . . .	49·73
F.E. Rate Variation . .	(—)54·12
Financing Charges . . .	282·88
Total Variation	1165.78

(d) On present indications the project is practically on schedule and should be completed by September, 1987.

Import of fertilizers

565. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOUDHURY : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact the fertilizer industry is facing a glut in its marketing operation due to increased production as well as import of fertilizers ;

(b) if so, the details of indigenous production and import made during April-September, 1986;

(c) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to stop import to save the industry and valuable foreign exchange ; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF FERTILIZER IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI R. PRABHU) : (a) to (d) During the period April-September 1986, 30·61 lakh tonnes of fertilizers nutrients were produced in the country. In addition , 12·17 lakh tonnes of imported fertilizer nutrients were received during the same period. Due to unfavourable weather conditions in many parts of the country, the consumption of fertilizers during the Kharif Season fell short of initial expectations. The availability of fertilizers in the market at present, therefore, is more than what is required for meeting the demand of the farmers. Keeping this situation in view, the programme for import of fertilizers has been reduced.

Expansion of IRDP

566. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOUDHURY : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to enlarge the scope of IRDP in view of the new 20 Point programme ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAMANAND YADAV) : There is no such proposal under consideration for expansion of IRDP . The Seventh Plan aims at providing assistance to around 20 million households against a target of 15 million house holds during Sixth Plan.

Amendment of Rent Control laws

567. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that one of the disincentives for constructing new houses is the outdated Rent Control laws in the country ;

(b) whether Government propose to issue guidelines to State Governments to amend such laws to provide incentives to people to invest their savings for constructing new houses ; and

(c) if not, what are the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH) : (a) The Govt. has been receiving representations to this effect from time to time.

(b) and (c) Rent Control is a State subject and it is for the State Governments to take a decision in the matter . However, the Central Govt. has under its consideration the question of amendment of Delhi Rent Control Act to strike a balance between the interests of tenants and Landlords.

बंजर भूमि का उपजाऊ भूमि में परिवर्तन किया जाना

568. **डा० रत्नाकर पाण्डेय** : क्या कृषि मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) उपग्रह के जरिए किए गए सर्वेक्षण के अनुसार देश में कुल कितनी भूमि बंजर या बेकार पड़ी हुई है ;

(ख) उसमें से कितनी भूमि को खेती योग्य बनाए जाने की संभावना है ;

(ग) इसके लिए तैयार की गई योजना का ब्यौरा क्या है ;

(घ) ऐसी योजनाओं का राज्य-वार आकार क्या है; और

(ङ) इन योजनाओं की जिम्मेदारी कितने संगठनों को दी गई है ?

कृषि मंत्रालय में कृषि और सहकारिता विभाग में राज्य मंत्री (श्री योगेन्द्र मकवाणा) : (क) 1980–82 में उपग्रह से लिए गए भूमि के चित्रों की व्याख्या के आधार पर भारत में परती भूमि की विभिन्न श्रेणियों के अन्तर्गत 533.00 लाख हैक्टेयर क्षेत्र का होना बताया गया है ।

(ख) परती भूमि को खेती योग्य भूमि में परिवर्तित किए जाने के बारे में अनुमान तैयार नहीं किए गए हैं ।

(ग) से (ङ) पंचवर्षीय योजनाओं के दौरान केन्द्र तथा राज्य क्षेत्र दोनों के अंतर्गत परती तथा अवक्रमित भूमि के सुधार और विकास विशेषकर क्षारीय तथा लवणीय मृदा और उबड़-खाबड़ भूमि के सुधार की कुछ योजनाएं तैयार तथा क्रियान्वित की गई हैं जिनमें, इसमें से कुछ भूमि को खेती योग्य भूमि में परिवर्तित करना भी शामिल है । इन योजनाओं को राज्य सरकारों द्वारा क्रियान्वित किया गया था ।